

Neuer on Sunday

Perhaps what the England of Christine Keeler and Stephen Ward needs is a touch of old Scotland. Judging by the archaic language of the Scottish Bigamy Act (1551), few offenders are more frowned upon than "thame that maryis twa syndrie wyfis or husbandis levand togiddir undervorsit [undivorced]." Under the act, punishment of such culprits is fixed at "confiscation of all theair guds, ingairbill of their persounis for yeir and day." Also, they may "neuer habill to bruke [never again bear] office of honour, dignitie nor benefice."

As it happens, this harsh treatment has not been meted out for monny a year lang syne, but the Scots' ancient law is still on the books. Last week, along with 166 other cobwebbed statutes adopted by the Scottish kingdom before it joined England in 1707, the law was being repealed in the British Parliament.

For all their moral granite, the Scots clearly had their problems. A 1661 statute, designed to curb rebellious youth, decreed that any "sonne or daughter above age of sextein yeers not being distracted [demented] shall beate or curse their father or mother shall be put to death without mercy." On the other hand, the loss of some of the old laws might be said, from a dour point of view, to contribute to modern decadence. Among them: repeal of a prohibition (1579) against "gamyng and playing, passing to tavernis and ail-houses and wilfull remaning fra [away from] the parochie kirk in tyme of sermone or prayers on Sunday."

SWEDEN

Gentleman Spy

The tall, coldly handsome Swedish aviator was a familiar figure on the Washington cocktail circuit. As Swedish air attaché from 1952 to 1957, he impressed one U.S. Air Force general as "easy and outgoing, an extravert who got along very well." West Pointers found him "spoony"—meaning suave. He played a cool, quiet game of golf at the Army-Navy Club, his balding, white-fringed head bent over his putter as generals and admirals chatted.

His conversation was hardly memorable, except that he worried aloud and a lot about radicals and leftists. When he went home, the U.S. Government presented him with the customary Legion of Merit for his "furtherance of amicable relationships between the Royal Swedish Air Force and the U.S. Air Force."

Last week, as Colonel Stig Erik Constans Wennerstrom, 56, awaited trial as a Soviet spy, it was suddenly clear that his relationships had been most amicable east of the Iron Curtain.

What Damage? When Swedish agents arrested him, he admitted he had been on the Soviet payroll for a full



AGENT WENNERSTROM
Spoony—but dangerous.

15 years—not only as an air attaché but after 1957 as chief of the air section in the Swedish Ministry of Defense, and since 1961 as a Foreign Ministry consultant. Though he drew only \$9,000 annual pay, he lived in a \$40,000 house in Stockholm's exclusive Djursholm district, among bank directors and diplomats, entertained frequently. Money was a motive (he may have earned as much as \$100,000 for his work), but one acquaintance said: "He must have enjoyed the dangerous game and thought he was intellectually better than others."

What damage could Wennerstrom's game have done to the U.S., NATO, and his own country? Though Sweden is not a NATO member, Wennerstrom had contact with Danish and Norwegian military men, probably knew a lot about the NATO defenses and weapons. He also knew Swedish defense sites and strengths, had access to key mobilization and communication plans. In Washington, he had access among other things, to detailed information on the U.S. Army's Hawk, radar-guided anti-aircraft missile designed to knock down low-flying supersonic planes. The Russians are working hard to perfect a defense against low-level nuclear attack, and the Hawk could help them.

More Proof? Swedish Minister of Defense Sven Andersson was suspicious of Wennerstrom for two years prior to his arrest, but Premier Tage Erlander was not informed until after agents had picked up Wennerstrom on the way to his office. As opposition critics pounced, Erlander went on television to explain: "It is impossible for the government to be informed of every person who is under suspicion. We need more proof in a democratic society before we can take action." It sounded like a lame excuse to Liberals and Conservatives, who de-

mandated a parliamentary investigation. Meanwhile, above the gentlemen, Wennerstrom reportedly asked his attorney to send back his Legion of Merit, calmly faced a probable life sentence for "gross espionage."

FRANCE

The Brotherhood

The grandeur that is Gaullism has always defied simple explanation. It often seems that Charles de Gaulle, like the Cabots, speaks only to God. In a witty new book, *The Gaullists: Myth and Directory*, French journalist Bernard Vianson-Ponté, chief political correspondent for prestigious *Le Monde*, pokes skillfully at the inner Gaullist mysteries. The movement, Vianson-Ponté concludes, "consists neither of a doctrine nor of an organization, but simply of an experience lived through."

The High Mass, Sung. The most telling experience for Gaullists is to hear De Gaulle's presence, which is surrounded by an inflexible liturgy. Guardian of the "Christian morality and social propriety" of the ritual is Mme. de Gaulle. "She checks the necklines of the ministers' wives," says Author Vianson-Ponté, "and has at various times, it is said, succeeded in keeping out of the government people suspected of marital infidelity." At luncheon at De Gaulle's country home in Colombey-les-deux-Eglises, "Mme. de Gaulle asks about the road, talks about the weather, the general. The general asks about the road, talks about the weather, himself." With its planted questions and prepared answers, a De Gaulle press conference is like a High Mass, sung. The resignation of a Gaullist who has outlived his usefulness is "an order; it is not disputed."

What is remarkable about all this, says Vianson-Ponté, is that although De Gaulle has absolute power, he does not abuse it. That may help to explain the loyalty of his followers, bound together only by their participation in at least two of Gaullism's three great adventures: the Free French Resistance, De Gaulle's postwar *Rassemblement du Peuple Français* (R.P.F.) and its abortive bid for political power; and the formation of the Fifth Republic.

Vianson-Ponté estimates that only 1,500 Frenchmen qualify as real Gaullists, has selected 116 of these for inclusion in his directory. Even in apostasy, he says, the Gaullist "link is indestructible. Excluded, exiled, in rebellion, Jacques Soustelle remains a member of the circle." But ironically, such ranking spokesmen for present-day Gaullist policy as Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville and Information Minister Alain Peyrefitte are excluded for lacking the proper credentials.

Crossing the Desert. Vianson-Ponté gives each Gaullist a Guide Michelin sort of rating denoting past services to Gaullism and present standing in relation to the general. A Cross of Lorraine indicates Free France, a submachine